

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 6 of the Specification as follows:

In one aspect, the invention provides a system of lifting and conveying a concrete slab and/or associated works, wherein the slab having an area includes a plurality of apertures therethrough said slab area, the apertures being provided with a respective jack, said jack at least comprising at least one shaft having a portion passing through said aperture and contacting a lower support means, means for connecting said slab to said shaft, the connection means incorporating at least one supporting member connecting the slab to the shaft, each supporting member passing through another said aperture and engaging said slab, and ~~a~~ means for effecting longitudinal travel of said supporting means along said shaft, resulting in the raising or lowering of said slab, position sensors associated with each jack, means for communicating between each jack and one or more main controllers, and means for controlling each jack whereby the jacks are movable in a synchronised manner.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 5 of the Specification as follows:

In yet another aspect, the invention provides a method of lifting a concrete slab using at least one jack, each jack including: at least one shaft and ball screw, a drive assembly, a

hanger assembly, a support device wherein the drive assembly drives the ball screw to raise the hanger assembly with respect to the shaft such that in use the jack has climbed and to raise the shaft to raise/lift a slab, the support device supports the shaft to prevent toppling and provide stability wherein the steps include:

set up--install nuts for the hangers and through-bolt for a jack in an existing ground floor slab or base slab;

a) set up boxing for slab S1-1 on base 1 (see FIG. 9, schematic a));

b) pour slab S1-1;

c) place jack in place and attach hangers 15;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 16 of the Specification as follows:

remove boxing and relocate to top of slab S1-1

d), e) pre-load jack and then lift slab 1 with boxing on top with hangers 15 ~~in~~-being in Tension;

f) pour slab S2-2 on top of slab S1-1 followed by putting ground floor walls/columns 50. Walls 50 can be placed before pouring slab 2 or afterwards;

g) put new boxing for slab S3-3;

h) attach strut 32 to base of jack 2 on ground or base slab with foot;

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 22 of the Specification as follows:

- i)-l) climb jack up to next level (first floor) without moving any slabs leaving strut in place from ground to jack (hangers in compression while ball screw in tension); trailing restraint automatically slidably drops down from inside each jack to extend to floor directly below whereby the jack is laterally supported so it will not fall over;
- m) n) o) once ground floor columns cured, release hanger from slab S1-1 to be under slab S2-2; reestablish hangers and pre-load and then lift slab S2-2 to second floor with boxing for slab S3-3;
- p) pour slab S3-3 and place boxing on top for slab S4-4; fit columns to first floor under slab S2-2 before or after this pour; strut still in place with trailing restraint;
- q) prepare to climb jack and struts; position back prop 10;
- r) connect strut to back-prop and climb jack;
- s) finish climbing the jack until strut foot inserted and back prop foot also inserted; strut and back prop are fully extended; trailing restraint automatically follows;
- t) prepare for next floor; u) shows trailing restraint in place;
- v) lift third floor ie slab S3-3; w) shows trailing restraint in place;
- x) y) walls 50 put in and pour slab S4-4 and climb/raise jack and

strut and back prop whereby back prop is in the first floor
Alternatively--set up--install nuts for the hangers and through-
bolt for a jack in a ground floor slab or base slab;

Please amend page 7, line 11-32 of the Specification as
follows:

set up boxing for slab S1-1 on base;
pour slab S1-1;
place jack in place and attach hangers;
remove boxing and relocate to top of slab S1-1;
pre-load the jack;
lift slab S1-1 with boxing on top with hangers ~~in~~ being in
tension;
pour slab S2-2 on top of slab S1-1 followed by putting ground
floor walls/columns;
alternatively the ground floor walls/columns can be erected
before the slab S2-2 pour;
put new boxing for slab S3-3;
attach strut to base of jack on ground or base slab with foot;
climb jack up to next level (first floor) without moving any
slabs leaving strut in place from ground to jack while ball screw
in compression;
slip trailing restraint down to stop jack fall over;
once ground floor columns cured, release hanger from slab S1-1 to
be under slab S2-2; reestablish hangers and pre-load the jack and

then lift slab S2-2 to second floor with boxing for slab S3-3;
pour slab S3-3 and place boxing on top for slab S4-4;
fit columns to first floor under slab S2-2;
after releasing hanger and raising hanger to under slab S3-3;
boxing for slab S4-4 placed on slab S3-3;
preload and then raise slab S3-3;
pour slab S4-4 and relocate boxing for slab S5-5;
put in columns for floor 2 under slab S3-3;

Please amend page 9, lines 9-10 of the Specification as follows:

Figures 9(a)-(d)~~Figure 9~~: are schematic representations of the first part of slab lifting sequence, hereinafter collectively referred to as Fig. 9.

Figures 10(a)-(b)~~Figure 10~~ are schematic representations of the rest of the slab lifting sequence, hereinafter collectively referred to as Fig. 10.

Please amend the paragraph at page 10, line 6 of the Specification as follows:

For simplicity only four jacks 2A-2D are shown connected to a central computer-5105. Each jack is a screw jack driven by an electric motor 3, which is controlled by variable speed drive 4. Typically each motor can be a 0.75-1.5 kW, four pole, 50 Hz, flange mounted 400 volts, brake motor. Each motor 3

will be driven by a three phase power supply typically 400 volts at 100 amps. Each motor is controlled by a central computer—5
105.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 19 of the Specification as follows:

In either case consideration should be given to the stretch potential of the system. The initial prototype uses a ~~6~~
six jack system. However, this system can be easily stretched to a seventy ~~70~~-jack system. For example to monitor or operate the system requires a MMI for example a screen with a scader™ based software system. Each Jack 2A-2B is the building block of the system. It is to be considered a self-contained element that is lifted onto site, connected into power and communications and is ready to operate. Consideration should be given to the outdoor and physical nature of a construction site.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 16 of the Specification as follows:

The ball screw is located within shaft 12. To lift the ~~slabs~~
~~slabs~~ a hanger assembly is provided which includes hanger beam 17—~~striding~~ straddling the shaft 12. Hanger rods 16 downwardly extend from the hanger beam 17 to extend through the slab to be lifted. Fixing means such as nuts and washers being provided. Located between the base of the hanger assembly 15 and

the top of the slab, is a thrust plate 18.

Please amend the lines beginning at page 19, line 19 through page 20, line 11 of the Specification as follows:

- a) set up boxing for slab S1-1 on base 1 (see FIG. 9, schematic a));
- b) pour slab S1-1;
- c) place jack in place and attach hangers 15;
remove boxing and relocate to top of slab S1-1
- d), e) preload jack and then lift slab S1-1 with boxing on top with hangers 15 ~~in~~ being in Tension;
- f) pour slab 2 on top of slab S1-1 followed by putting ground floor walls/columns 50. Walls 50 can be placed before pouring slab 2 or afterwards;
- g) put new boxing for slab S1-3;
- h) attach strut 32 to base of jack 2 on ground or base slab with foot;
- i)-l) climb jack up to next level (first floor) without moving any slabs leaving strut in place from ground to jack (hangers in compression while ball screw in tension); trailing restraint automatically slidably drops down from inside each jack to extend to floor directly below whereby the jack is laterally supported so it will not fall over;
- m) n) o) once ground floor columns cured, release hanger from slab S1-1 to be under slab S1-2; reestablish hangers and preload

and then lift slab S2-2 to second floor with boxing for slab S3
3;

p) pour slab 3-3 and place boxing on top for slab 4-4; fit
columns to first floor under slab 2 before or after this pour;
strut still in place with trailing restraint;

q) prepare to climb jack and struts; position back prop 10;

r) connect strut to back prop and climb jack;

s) finish climbing the jack until strut foot inserted and back
prop foot also inserted; strut and back prop are fully extended;
trailing restraint automatically follows;

t) prepare for next floor; u) shows trailing restraint in place;

v) lift third floor ie slab S3-3; w) shows trailing restraint in
place;

x) y) walls 50 put in and pour slab S4-4 and climb/raise jack and
strut and back prop whereby back prop is in the first floor.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line
15 of the Specification as follows:

The above main steps of prelifting/preloading, lifting,
climbing with trailing restraints, struts and back props are
repeated with walls 50 etc and boxing with scaffolding being
erected where necessary and or being dragged up as appropriate.
For example the boxing or walls 5-50 can be erected before or
after any of the other steps.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 26 of the Specification as follows:

Alternatively, the scaffolding means can be attached to the concrete slab after being poured. The scaffolding means includes formwork/boxing preparations 6 for each slab, support for workmen, safety components 125—5, support and means 12 to allow extension of the formwork and connection means 18 and guiding means 10 and 11 for connecting of the scaffolding means to a slab. The scaffolding means is adapted to fit or be fitted to the edge of a concrete slab.